

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Sunday, January 7, 2024
10:00 A.M.

119 WEST COMMERCE STREET
BRIDGETON, NJ 08302
PHONE (856)455-0809 WWW.FPCBRIDGETON.ORG

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE “Ring Little Bells/O Come, Little Children” arr. Larry Shackley

WELCOME Liturgist

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

God said, “Let there be light,”
and there was light.

God’s speech
is God’s action.

When God creates,
the creation is good.

God our maker has done it again.
God has brought us to a new dawn.
Let us worship God!

***HYMN** #492 “Baptized In Water”

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Kaul

Nothing can be hidden from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth,
whose wisdom is endless, whose mercy is great.
Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God whose spirit moves over the waters, you have washed us in your mercy, claimed us as your own, bound us in community and called us to lives of baptismal grace. Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived as if we were your baptized people. We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness. We prioritize our own selfish interests. We are slow to disrupt the status quo, even when it means ignoring our neighbors’ suffering. Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, lead us back to your waters of transformation. Amen. (Silent Reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Those who trust in God will renew their strength. They will run and not be weary, they will walk and not grow faint. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

A TIME TO BE YOUNG

ANTHEM “How Can I Keep From Singing” arr. Jay Althouse

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LITURGIST

Gracious God,

we give thanks that in baptism

you give us new birth,

for baptismal water marks the beginning of life
for those who follow Jesus Christ.

**Inspire us to hear the good news declared
at Jesus' baptism,**

to heed your voice from heaven proclaiming that
Jesus is your beloved,

and to believe that with Christ you are pleased.

**Teach us to remember our baptism and receive the
Holy Spirit again and again.**

Though we cannot earn your pleasure,
we desire your grace.

Speak to us words of mercy

and guide us with your love,

that our lives might declare your glory
in action, word, and deed.

In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Liturgist

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

The Voice of God in a Great Storm

A Psalm of David.

1 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendor.

3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.

4 **The voice of the Lord is powerful;**
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

7 **The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.**

8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl
and strips the forest bare,

and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

11 **May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!**

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:4-11

Rev. Kaul

SERMON

"The Reveal"

HYMN

#377

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM FOR OUR CONGREGATION

Hear these words from the holy scripture:.....

are one body, so it is with Christ.

**For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body- Jews or Greeks, slaves or free –
and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Beloved people of God.....

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

(Liturgist)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Remember your baptism and be thankful. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus"

Michael Burkhardt

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray now with confidence as children of God the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN #430 "Come Sing, O Church in Joy!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

*"May the Lord watch between me and thee, while absent, one from the other."
(Mizpah Benediction)*

POSTLUDE

Toccata in G Major

Lani Smith


Serving Today

LITURGIST- Debbie H.

USHERS- Curtis H., Debbie H., Frank P.

COUNTERS - Debbie F., Sherry M.

FLOWERS - New Year, New Opportunities



**Remember
Your
Baptism**

And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."
Mark 1:1-11

Rev. Norlita Kaul, Pastor

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